Present simple III

SEMESTRAL UNI - 2023 II

Present Simple with a Future Meaning

The **present simple** can be used to talk about talk about **scheduled future events**. These are events that happen according to a schedule or timetable. They are usually scheduled by someone else and they are usually public events.

*Tomorrow **is** Friday.*
*I **fly** to Paris next week.*
*The plane **departs** at 8 p.m.*
*The train to Ottawa **leaves** at 11:30 a.m.*
*When do you **leave** for NYC?*
*Her train **arrives** at 8:35 a.m. tomorrow morning.*
*What time does the movie **start** tonight?*
*What time do you **finish** work tomorrow?*
*What time does the store **open** tomorrow?*
*Final exams **start** next week.*
*The concert **begins** at 6:30 p.m.*
*The Monet exhibit **closes** on Sunday.*
*The sale **ends** next week.*

Important: Only the verbs below can be used in the simple present to talk about a future scheduled event:

arrive	be	begin
close	depart	end
finish	fly	leave
open	start	

Basic Difference Between DO and MAKE

- Use **DO** for actions, obligations, and repetitive tasks.
- Use **MAKE** for creating or producing something, and for actions you choose to do.
- **DO** generally refers to the action itself, and **MAKE** usually refers to the result. For example, if you "make breakfast," the result is an omelet! If you "make a suggestion," you have created a recommendation.

Common English Collocations with DO

HOUSEWORK

- **do the housework**
  After I got home from the office, I was too tired to do the housework.
- **do the laundry**
  I really need to do the laundry – I don't have any clean clothes left!

- **do the dishes**
  I'll make dinner if you do the dishes afterwards.
  (*you can also say "wash the dishes"*)
- **do the shopping**
  I went to the bank, did some shopping, and mailed a package at the post office.

EXCEPTION: make the bed = putting blankets, sheets, and pillows in the correct place so that the bed looks nice and not messy.

WORK / STUDY

- **do work**
  I can't go out this weekend – I have to do some work on an extra project.
- **do homework**
  You can't watch any TV until you've done your homework.
- **do business**
  We do business with clients in fifteen countries.
- **do a good/great/terrible job**
  She did a good job organizing the party.
  (*in this expression, "job" doesn't necessarily refer to work. It simply means the person did something well*)
- **do a report**
  I'm doing a report on the history of American foreign policy.
  (*you can also say "writing a report"*)
- **do a course**
  We're doing a course at the local university.
  (*you can also say "taking a course"*)

TAKING CARE OF YOUR BODY

- **do exercise**
  I do at least half an hour of exercise every day.
- **do your hair** (= style your hair)
  I'll be ready to go in 15 minutes – I just need to do my hair.
- **do your nails** (= paint your nails)
  Can you open this envelope for me? I just did my nails and they're still wet.

GENERAL GOOD OR BAD ACTIONS

- **do anything / something / everything / nothing**
  Are you doing anything special for your birthday?
  You can't do everything by yourself – let me help you.
- **do well**
  I think I did pretty well in the interview.
- **do badly**
  Everyone did badly on the test – the highest grade was 68.
- **do good**
  The non-profit organization has done a lot of good in the community.

- **do the right thing**
  When I found someone's wallet on the sidewalk, I turned it in to the police because I wanted to do the right thing.
- **do your best**
  Don't worry about getting everything perfect – just do your best.

Common English Collocations with MAKE

FOOD

- **make breakfast/lunch/dinner**
  I'm making dinner – it'll be ready in about ten minutes.
- **make a sandwich**
  Could you make me a turkey sandwich?
- **make a salad**
  I made a salad for the family picnic.
- **make a cup of tea**
  Would you like me to make you a cup of tea?
- **make a reservation**
  I've made a reservation for 7:30 at our favorite restaurant.

MONEY

- **make money**
  I enjoy my job, but I don't make very much money.
- **make a profit**
  The new company made a profit within its first year.
- **make a fortune**
  He made a fortune after his book hit #1 on the bestseller list.
- **make $ .....**
  I made $250 selling my old CDs on the internet.

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RELATIONSHIPS

- **make friends**
  It's hard to make friends when you move to a big city.
- **make love** (= have sex)
  The newlyweds made love on the beach during their honeymoon.
- **make a pass at** (= flirt with someone)
  My best friend's brother made a pass at me – he asked if I was single and tried to get my phone number.
- **make fun of someone** (= tease / mock someone)
  The other kids made fun of Jimmy when he got glasses, calling him "four eyes."
- **make up** (= resolve a problem in a relationship)
  Karen and Jennifer made up after the big fight they had last week.

COMMUNICATION

- **make a phone call**
  Please excuse me – I need to make a phone call.
- **make a joke**
  He made a joke, but it wasn't very funny and no one laughed.

- **make a point**
  Dana made some good points during the meeting; I think we should consider her ideas.
- **make a bet**
  I made a bet with Peter to see who could do more push-ups.
- **make a complaint**
  We made a complaint with our internet provider about their terrible service, but we still haven't heard back from them.
- **make a confession**
  I need to make a confession: I was the one who ate the last piece of cake.
- **make a speech**
  The company president made a speech about ethics in the workplace.
- **make a suggestion**
  Can I make a suggestion? I think you should cut your hair shorter – it'd look great on you!
- **make a prediction**
  It's difficult to make any predictions about the future of the economy.
- **make an excuse**
  When I asked him if he'd finished the work, he started making excuses about how he was too busy.
- **make a promise**
  I made a promise to help her whenever she needs it.
  (*you can also say, "I promised to help her whenever she needs it."*)
- **make a fuss** (= demonstrate annoyance)
  Stop making a fuss – he's only late a couple minutes. I'm sure he'll be here soon.
- **make an observation**
  I'd like to make an observation about our business plan – it's not set in stone, so we can be flexible.
- **make a comment**
  The teacher made a few critical comments on my essay.

EXCEPTION: Don't say "make a question." The correct phrase is "ask a question."

PLANS & PROGRESS

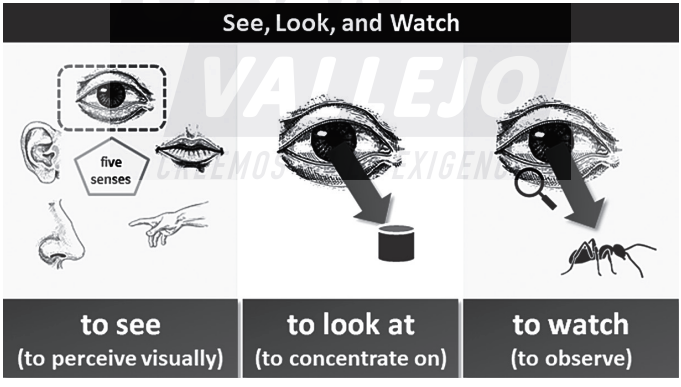
- **make plans**
  We're making plans to travel to Australia next year.
- **make a decision/choice**
  I've made my decision – I'm going to go to New York University, not Boston University.
- **make a mistake**
  You made a few mistakes in your calculations – the correct total is $5430, not $4530.
- **make progress**
  My students are making good progress. Their spoken English is improving a lot.
- **make an attempt / effort** (= try)
  I'm making an effort to stop smoking this year.
- **make up your mind** (= decide)
  Should I buy a desktop or a laptop computer? I can't make up my mind.
- **make a discovery**
  Scientists have made an important discovery in the area of genetics.
- **make a list**
  I'm making a list of everything we need for the wedding: invitations, decorations, a cake, a band, the dress…

- **make sure** (= confirm)
  Can you make sure we have enough copies of the report for everybody at the meeting?
- **make a difference**
  Getting eight hours of sleep makes a big difference in my day. I have more energy!
- **make an exception**
  Normally the teacher doesn't accept late homework, but she made an exception for me because my backpack was stolen with my homework inside it.

See, Look, or Watch?

What is the difference between "see," "look," and "watch"?

- "To see" means to perceive through the eyes. For example:
  - I **see** you.
  - According the veterinarians, dogs **see** the world in black and white with some yellow and blue.
- "To look" means to apply the ability to see. For example:
  - **Look** at the stars.
  - I will **look** for you in the shop.
- "To watch" means to pay attention to something you are seeing (usually something that is moving). For example:
  - **Watch** the white horse as it enters the water.
  - I **watched** the sunrise.



More about "See," "Look," and "Watch"

The verbs "to see," "to look," and "to watch" are closely related, but there are subtle differences.

See

The verb "to see" means to perceive without your eyes. In other words, it means to be conscious of your surroundings using your eyes. For example:

- I saw you waving at me. ✓
- I see a ship on the horizon. ✓
- Blessed are they who see beautiful things in humble places where other people see nothing. ✓ (Painter Camille Pissarro)

Of note, "to see" can also mean to understand (e.g., I see what you mean).

Look

The verb "to look" means to deliberately apply the ability to see. In other words, it means to make a conscious effort to see something. "To look" is usually followed by "at" or "for." For example:

- Look at the beading on her wedding dress. ✓
- I am looking for my car keys. ✓
- If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change. ✓ (Author Wayne Dyer)

Watch

The verb "to watch" means to observe something deliberately. It is similar to "to look," but it implies more effort. It means to look at something carefully (usually at something that is moving). For example:

- The policemen watched their suspect for half an hour. ✓
- I watch the news every morning before work. ✓
- Don't watch the clock; do what it does. Keep going. ✓ (Humorist Sam Levenson)

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